

MY BEAUTIFUL ZELL.

AIR:—"Desmond's Song."

I have sung for the living, I have sung for the dead,
For those who have naught but the grass o'er
their head;
But I ne'er had a subject I liked half so well
As your sweet girlish graces, my beautiful Zell.

You have all the grace and the glamor of
youth,
Your clear eyes reflecting your sweet spirit's
truth,
My heart owns the force of its magical spell,
My artless, my innocent, beautiful Zell.

No sculptor e'er moulded such exquisite grace,
No painter e'er pictured a lovelier face,
That beautiful face in my memory shall dwell,
I shall never forget you, my beautiful Zell.

No poet e'er dreamed of a spirit more fair,
All nature's sweet innocence flourishes there;
I love you, my darling, you know it quite well,
May God ever bless you, my beautiful Zell.

MICHAEL WHELAN.

Renous River, N.B., October, 1892.

THE STORY OF A CONVERT.

AN EDITOR TELLS HOW HE BECAME A CATHOLIC.

Mr. W. H. Thorne, publisher and editor of the Globe Quarterly Review, announces in the latest issue of that periodical that he has entered the fold of the Catholic Church, and gives some of his reasons therefor, together with a short account of his wanderings for years outside the pale in search of truth and peace.

The story is exceedingly interesting. Up to the age of sixteen Mr. Thorne, so he says, knew little or nothing of Catholics or of the Catholic Church. All he had heard of them with bated breath "as of something ghostly, terrible, and of the past." He thus learned to hate and despise the name of Catholic.

Mr. Thorne joined the Presbyterian ministry, and his original prejudices began to be somewhat modified by personal contact with two or three cultivated Catholic priests. Later he withdrew from the Presbyterian ministry and established in his mind a system of religion which he termed Cosmotheism. Then he proceeds to tell how at length he reached the true and only Church of God, and does it in very eloquent and touching language. Mr. Thorne says:

"A few years after the first writing of Cosmotheism, and, say, from 1872-1874 till within the past year, I was, when in Philadelphia, a frequent attendant at the Vesper services, or I later learned to call them, the services of the Benediction, in the Catholic Cathedral on Logan Square. At first I went to hear the music—especially the organ—because it had been built by the father of some Unitarian ladies who had attended my own preachings; and I soon found myself moved by this music as I never had been moved by any music in Protestant churches. So I continued to go, mainly for a sort of devotional enjoyment. After some years, however, and notably after many severe trials in my own life, and after much new study along all lines of religious truth, I found myself more moved toward God and peace and duty by the simple services of the Catholic altar than by any Protestant preaching I had ever heard. So the great central fact of the universe, viz., the incarnation of God in Christ, and the next great world-fact of the incarnation of this Christ in the services of the Catholic Church, came back to me as if out of heaven, until Cosmotheism and all other voices of human reason seemed to be but the cryings of a child in the night, until the door was opened to me also, which no man shutteth, and I entered in and found rest and peace."

"More than that I cannot at present reveal. To tell how, step by step, through years of exactest thought, through blinding tears, through agonies of yearning for the whole truth and duty—come life, come death—and finally through the aid of a venerable priest and the beautiful kindness and prayers of a company of Christ's own angels, in a sisterhood of the Church, I saw it as the new Jerusalem of God on earth; the true bride of Christ, the true ark of human safety; the perfect ministry to and voicing of the religious human soul; and how I, too, was enabled to bend the knee before its altars and partake of its sacraments, would be like tearing one's heart out, and holding it up to public gaze—mayhap for days to peck at or to be trampled under the feet of swine."

There is no doubt that Mr. Thorne will now enjoy greater peace than he has ever known. For souls disturbed there is nothing like the infinite calm and consolation to be found in the bosom of the Catholic Church, which proffers something exactly suited to the need and longing of every human heart.—*Catholic Mirror*.

The Advertising

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